28th January 1929]

Panchayat Forests

Rules for the conduct of forest panchayats.

1002 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state, in reference to the answers given to question No. 923 answered on 29th November 1928—

(a) whether the Government have considered the draft standing order for the administration of forest panchayats; and

(b) if they have, whether he will be pleased to place on the table the standing order as it is being issued?

A.—The draft standing order is still under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member about what time the Board's Standing Order is likely to issue?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"I am afraid I cannot prophesy, Sir."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know if it may be issued within the next three months, Sir?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS:—"If it lies in the power of the Government, it will be, Sir."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"May I know under what statutory provision these rules will be issued?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am not able to find any reference to the authority under which the rules are framed. How does the supplemental question arise out of this answer here?"

Mr. J. A SALDANHA:—"The Government say that they are going to issue certain orders. I want to know under what authority they do so."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is not a supplemental question arising out of this."

Irrigation

Supply of water for lands under Red Hills and Cholavaram tanks.

1003-A Q—Mr. P. BHAKTAVATSULU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have completely stopped water for lands under Cholavaram and Red Hills tanks;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware of the fact that the major crops raised under those tanks will require at least water for one month before they will be fit for full harvest; and

(c) if so, whether the Government will consider the advisability of letting water for such crops at least for a month or so under the Red Hills tank and especially under the Cholavaram tank?

A.—(a) to (c) Water was issued for irrigation from the Cholavaram tank on 28th November 1928. In the case of the lands under the Red Hills tank, on the recommendation of the Collector orders were passed to issue water sufficient for a single watering. It was actually issued on 5th December 1928. From the 15th December onwards water under the existing orders is issued for the irrigation of first crop as long as the level of the Red Hills tank is above +38.

[28th January 1929

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government have any proposals of so improving the supply to the Red Hills and Cholavaram tanks that there will be no need to cut off water for irrigation with a view to ensure supply of drinking water to this City ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" That is exactly the object with which the present improvements are being carried out."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, if these improvements are confined to the improvements contemplated for the upper supply channel alone, and whether it is not proposed to obtain more water than would be possible under the scheme of widening the upper supply channel within the radius of the Cholavaram and the Red Hills tanks ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" If the improvements do not lead to a practical solution of the difficulties that have been experienced, investigation will be made with the object of seeing whether anything further can be done."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether the improvements have improved the supply at present ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" It certainly did have a beneficial effect when the works got to such a stage that they became operative, but owing to the time that it took to get the work done it was not till after the end of November really that any improvement could be seen."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Sir, the monsoon this year was normal. If it was abnormal, or if the quantity of rain was less, how would the improvements to these tanks add to the quantity of water in the tanks ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" By letting in more water which would otherwise go waste into the sea."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Regarding the question No. 1003-B it has been brought to my notice that the question given notice of was slightly different from the question as admitted by me. Therefore there is some confusion in the clauses of the answer, and so it will be put on the question paper to-morrow."

Report on the reinvestigation of the Gudemupad project.

* 1004 *Q.*—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state, in reference to answers given to question No. 895 on 29th November 1928—

(*a*) whether the Chief Engineer's report has been received ; and

(*b*) if it has been received, what it is ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No. The project is being re-examined by the Executive Engineer, Kurnool division, and it will take some time before the final report is received.